Setting up of Independent Drug Control Body

161. SHRI N. E. BALARAM: Will the Minister of HEALH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the Conference of the Indian Pharmacy Association held in the Capital recently;

(b) if so, what are the recommendations made at this conference; and

(c) whether Government propose to consider the suggestion to set up an independent drug control body for better monitoring of drug production quality and price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir. The XIth Annual Conference of the Indian Pharmacy Graduates Association was held on 11th February, 1989 in the Capital.

(b) The recommendations made by the Conference are given in the enclosed Statement. (*See* below).

(c) The Government has constituted a High Powered Group under the Chairmanship of the Health Minister, Government of Maharashtra to examine the restructuring of the Drug Control Organisation in the Centre and States with special reference to setting up of a National Drug Control Authority.

Statement

(1) There should be a separate and independent Directorate of Drugs Control Administration at the Centre and State level.

(2) The Drugs and Cosmetics Rules should be amended to the effect that only Pharmacy qualified persons are permitted to manufacture and test the drugs.

(3) Every State should have its own drug testing laboratory.

(4) The Drugs and Cosmetics Rules should be amended to make it compulsory that compounding, dispensing and sale of drugs is done only by a registered pharmacist instead of under the supervision of a qualified person.

(5) (a) Evrey hospital should have an independent Department of Pharmacy under the charge of Chief Pharmacist.

(b) Every district hospital should have an I.V. Fluid manufacturing unit.

(c) A post of Dy. Director, Pharmacy should be created in Directorate General of Health Services and State Directorate of Health Services.

(6) A cadre of pharmaceutical services be created in order to promote availability and promotional avenues for the pharmacists.

Outbreak of Kala-azar in the Country

162. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kala-azar continues to claim lives in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the steps taken/proposed to be taken to contain the outbreak of Kala-azar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Kala-azar is a major public health problem in 27 districts in the State of Bihar and 8 districts in West Bengal. The population exposed to risk in the endemic areas is about 44 million. The number of cases and deaths reported in the State of Bihar and West Bengal